

## PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF : Paul G. Jost-Brinkmann et al.  
FOR : DENTAL FLOSS HOLDER  
SERIAL NO. : Unknown  
FILED : Herewith  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: HMN 2 0014

Cleveland, Ohio 44114-2518  
March 6, 2001

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner For Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and substantive examination of the above-referenced patent application, Applicants respectfully request amendment of the application as follows. A clean copy of the claims appears below and a marked-up version is set forth as an Appendix.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Q1 1. (Amended) Dental floss holder comprising a grip, in which can be inserted a floss supply spool, a fork with two prongs, between which can be stretched floss, as well as at least one holding element for locking the floss, wherein the grip has a substantially drop-shaped construction and is connected to the fork by means of an arm, the at least one holding element being fitted to the top of the arm and a guide for the floss being formed as a depression or groove within the grip.

2. (Amended) Dental floss holder according to claim 1, characterized in that the grip is constructed as a shell construction.

3. (Amended) Dental floss holder according to claim 1, characterized in that the arm length is about 0 to about 7 cm.